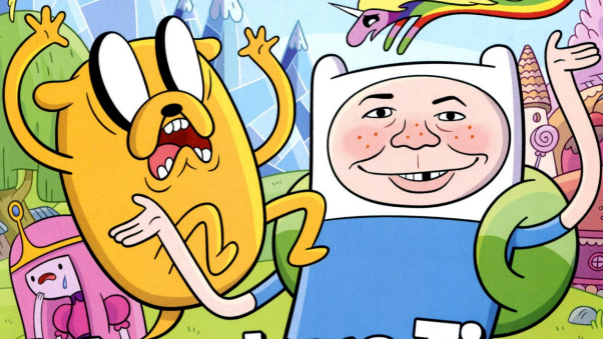


Honey Boo Boo • Planet Tad • Benefits of Being a Zombie

MAD



Adventure Time

One of
the

50

Worst Things About Cartoons

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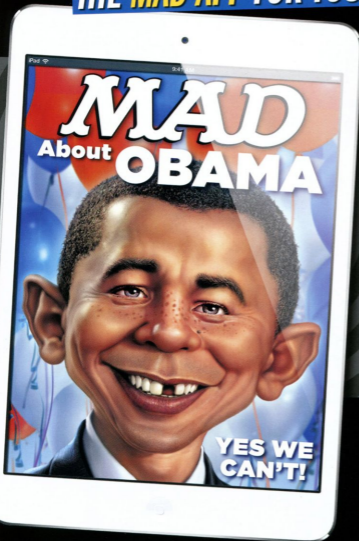
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MAD

Departments

Yoga is great practice for marriage — all you do is bend over backwards when someone tells you to!



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APRIL 2013

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BACK COVER STITCHED BY DEBORAH WOODBRIDGE

PG



NEW SERIES
JANUARY 24 8/7c
IT'S INCREDI-LOL.

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O ON THEIR FIRST DAY OF CAMP, TOMMY AND BEN DISCOVER TO THEIR HORROR THAT THEY'LL BE STAYING ON TOP OF...

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CHECK OUT
THE FULL VIDEO, AND WATCH THE ENDING AT:
CARTOONNETWORK.COM/BUNKBEDMOUNTAIN



Letters and Tomatoes



TABLE FULL OF CONTENTS

I have watched your shows as a child but when I got older I got responsible and signed up for subscriptions to *Money*, *Travel & Leisure*, as well as *Cosmopolitan* (every woman can use a few tips "wink") but one day while at work I noticed the sun shining onto a table. I looked and there was a bunch of magazines someone left to share, *Time*, *MAD* and *Forbes*. Being that I was at work and already feeling sad I grabbed *MAD*. Happiest 15 minutes of my day. My laughing started on page 3. I thought I would make a deal. Publish my letter and I will sign up for a *MAD* subscription. If not I will just wait for the loser that leaves them on the table. Your call.

Eva Boyd • Detroit, MI

Resident Eva — What do you mean you started laughing on page 3?!? You do realize that Letters and Tomatoes starts on page 2, right? What the Fraggles?!?! No deal! But look on the bright side...of the table, because that's where you'll find free issues of *MAD*, apparently. —Ed.

NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENTS

I am a *MAD* fan, and so are my siblings. This Christmas there were four big presents next to my tree, and they were all addressed to my five-month-old brother. My mom said that my siblings and I could open them, because it was obvious my baby brother couldn't. So we did, expecting baby toys or something. To our surprise, it was a bunch of *MAD* stuff! It was so awesome! Thank you, *MAD*!

Ava Gallagher • Kingston, NY

Ava Flaw — What are you thanking us for? You're the ones who decided to steal gifts from a poor, defenseless baby! That's not what Christmas is all about! Then again, you probably did your brother a favor by taking all that *MAD* stuff away from him. Now he might actually stand a chance at being a successful, well-adjusted member of society! You're a good big sister — enjoy the swag! —Ed.



El, Mae, Luc, Ava and Uly Gallagher

SHOWING YOUR TRUE COVERS

We realize that you may have let your subscriptions to *Zeit Magazin* and *Süddeutsche Zeitung Magazin* (basically, the *Time* and *Newsweek* of Germany) lapse. Maybe because you don't speak German, or maybe just because they never featured *Spy* vs. *Spy* on their covers. Well, that changes now! (Well, not the "can't speak German" part...) Playing off their own rivalry, both magazines published issues about "Competition," featuring THREE awesome *Spy* vs. *Spy* covers done by *Spy* artist and writer Peter Kuper, with original *Spy* art throughout! We don't know if any rivalries get settled, but we do know this: three covers on two issues?!? Those are some crazy Germans!



INHERITANCE TAXED

I turned 60 this December. My only child is 16, and I thought I better turn her on to my sordid past as a *MAD* magazine aficionado before I kicked the proverbial bucket. I used to read *MAD* as a teenager and I turned out okay. I didn't turn out as a spy...or a cartoonist. I became a Girl Scout leader and a lawyer. But when I gave my daughter your December issue, she didn't get it. Where did I go wrong? Life is not worth living, without a *MAD*-induced warped sense of humor.

Pat Brown • Clovis, CA

Eastbound and Brown — We can tell you EXACTLY where you've gone wrong: your conviction that your daughter's life "isn't worth living" just because she has the good sense not to share your questionable taste in magazines! Trust us, she's on the right track! If you really want your daughter to be happy, stop pushing our mediocre publication on her and give her something she'll truly appreciate — for instance, a lifetime subscription to *Dirt Wheels*...or, better yet, a one-way ticket far, far away from Clovis, California! —Ed.



LIKE MAD ON FACEBOOK!

We're on Facebook! You should go there and "Like" us. Go on...it'll make you feel good about the internet!



ARMAGEDDON OUTTA HERE

I have a very important question. Did you guys at MAD prepare for the end of the world? I know that some people spent thousands of dollars for underground hideouts to keep them safe. I didn't think that the world was going to end, and I was right. Since you call yourselves a gang of idiots, I was wondering if you were idiotic enough to use all the money you make from creating MAD on surviving the false end of the world. I noticed you mentioned the Mayan Calendar more than once in MAD #519, so you must have thought about it.

Aidan MacSweeney • Assonet, MA

FrankenSweeney — Sure, we think about the end of the world. For example, today we thought, "Boy, it sure would be nice if the world came to an end right now, so we wouldn't have to read this letter from Aidan MacSweeney!" But then's the breaks (thanks for nothing, stupid jerk Mayans). To answer your question, no, we didn't prepare for the end of the world. MAD Senior Editor Charlie Kadau did end up buying a 40-year supply of tapioca, but that was unrelated to any doomsday prophecies. —Ed.

WOOD THAT WE COULD

I have been reading MAD since I was three years old. I have almost every magazine you guys have published! One of my favorite things is Spy vs. Spy. This is my first time writing to you. I have 10 shirts but they are now too small, but I am going to get more. I'm a really big fan — I even spray painted MAD on a big piece of wood! I can't wait to receive more magazines and MAD gear! My room is also all decked out in MAD.

Caleb Heideman • Sparta, MO

Heideman and Go Seek — Thank you for your fandom. As we've always said — no greater tribute can be paid to a magazine than to have its name spray-painted on a big piece of wood! Pulitzer-schmultz! Best of luck with your continued fandom, and lifetime ban from Home Depot! —Ed.



A MAN OF ACTION FIGURES

My name is Sam and I have been reading and subscribing to your magazine for over a year now. Just recently I bought one of the MAD "Just-us League of Stupid Heroes" Green Arrow figurines when I realized that its label read Aquaman, not Green Arrow (See picture). Do you think this thing could be worth some money?

Sam Caplan • Ambler, PA

Salary Caplan — "Do you think this thing could be worth some money?" Buddy boy, you're the lucky owner of the MAD-figurine equivalent of the famed "Inverted Jenny" postage stamp (value: \$977,500) or the 1909 "Slow" Joe Doyle error card (\$329,000). We're pleased to tell you that your ultra-rare "Alfred Aqua Arrow" could fetch as much as — are you sitting down? — THREE DOLLARS on the open collectibles market. Actually...that's probably a bit high, what with the soup you spilled on the cardboard there. Two dollars? Hmm...that still might be pushing it. Eight cents? Yep, that sounds about right! Enjoy your riches — and don't spend 'em all in one place! —Ed.



THE COSTUMER IS ALWAYS RIGHT

Halloween means a lot of things: candy, spookiness and unlicensed homemade costumes that violate our trademarked characters and take money out of our pockets! Oh well — in the spirit of the season, we'll let it slide.



Fin and Fred Karkowski (hardly a fair fight)



Alex Hartley



Ewan LaFond



Kieran LaFond and Ashley LaFond

Letters and Tomatoes

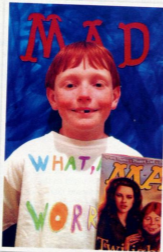


A HAIRCUT ABOVE

I found out about your magazine when I started watching your TV show so I grew interested. My dad said that I could go into any store that has a magazine section and long story short, I saw my first MAD magazine cover. After that I made a deal with my dad that if I have a haircut, then he would buy me a MAD magazine. Enclosed is a picture of me in my Halloween costume as Alfred E. Neuman.

David Holderman • San Jose, CA

Too Hot to Handle, Too Cold to Holderman — You call it a "deal," we call it "cruel manipulation"! Judging from your picture, your father didn't stop at one issue and a single haircut! The missing tooth, the freckles, the ears...He's using your love of MAD to turn you into ALFRED HIMSELF! It's a common disorder known as Neuman-Son Dissociation Disorder (NSDD), and it's made you the spitting image of our numbskull mascot! Your dad sounds like a truly troubled individual — but as long as he keeps buying our rag for you, we'll look the other way! —Ed.

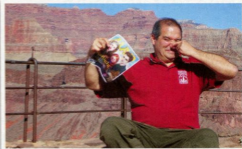


YES WE CANYON

You used to say your magazine was good for wrapping fish and lining birdcages. I found one more use. This photo is from Plateau Point in the Grand Canyon. When hiking and camping in the Grand Canyon, the weight of the items you carry is important. Any extra weight is a burden you only have to carry back up. Your magazine weighs a lot, but I found an item it could replace in my backpack — my toilet paper. I knew MAD magazine would be up for double-doodie. But the next time I need to remember: FIRST read the magazine, then...oh, well.

Dan DeLaTorre • Lakewood, CO

DeLaTorre: Three Feet High and Rising — Wow, those lucky tourists got to see two natural wonders: the Grand Canyon, AND a full-grown man popping a squat in front of the Grand Canyon! However, we can't help but notice that you're not holding a copy of the actual magazine. Maybe you'd have more room in your pack if you weren't lugging around a laser printer everywhere you went. —Ed.



READER ALERT

If your letter was printed in this issue, we have a bonanza of delightfulness coming to your very doorstep! You'll be getting *Imagination Illustrated: The Jim Henson Journal* by Karen Falk, courtesy of our pals at Chronicle Books; *Spacehawk* by Basil Wolverton, from our chums at Fantagraphics Books; a DVD of *The High Fructose Adventures of Annoying Orange, Season 1* (on sale March 5), thanks to our amigos at GaiaM Vivendi Entertainment; *Rock Toys: Cheap, Crazy Playthings* by Brian Heller, courtesy of our homies at Plaid Stallions Press (www.rocktoysbook.com) and a Blu-ray 3D/Blu-ray 2D two-disc set of *Top Gun* (on sale February 19), courtesy of our buds at Paramount Home Media Distribution! So get writing, get printed, and get loaded with loot!



MAD

MAD #521 is on sale April 23!

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John Ficarra Editor

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Dave Croatto, Jacob Lambert Associate Editors

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Ryan Flanders Assistant Art Director
Doug Thomson Production Artist

Contributing Artists And Writers
The Usual Gang of Idiots

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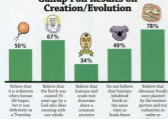
THE FUNDALINI PAGES

CATAclysmic SCENARIOS AND PROPHECIES TO IGNORE IN 2013



Writer: Jeff Davis Artist: Charlie Davis

Gallup Poll Results on Creation/Evolution



Writer: Jeff Davis

The Yungbluth and the Restless



"I'm not mad!" The Blackstone Committee is behind everything! It's right there in "Dad!"

Writer: Jeff Davis Artist: Charlie Davis

Celebrity Cause-of-Death Betting Odds TAYLOR SWIFT

- Kills herself in despair after entering into a happy relationship and having nothing to write songs about... Even
- Crushed under the weight of her own hugs... 2:1
- Carried off in a gentle breeze... 5:1
- Squished by Adele in horrible Grammy seating row up... 12:1
- Complications in childbirth while having Kanye's baby... 500,000:1



Writer: Jeff Davis

The Final "Bazooka Joe" Comic



Writer: David Davis

Rejected Fortune Cookies

The journey of 1,000 miles begins with a single step — and if that step is in our kitchen it lands on a cockroach.



Learn Chinese: Why are the dumplings moving? 为什么饺子会动呢?

Photo: (c) Larry Brown/Photo.com

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM SAUDI ARABIA'S NEW ALL-FEMALE CITY



It'll have the longest run of the Vegas Blackout ever

The line for the ladies' room will be brief

Within two months, the whole city will be covered with spiders since there are no men around to kill them.

There will be a white landfill of just dumps of hair swept out of shower and sink drains.

At the end of every day, they'll have a four mile chain that can be seen from space.

Photo: (c) Larry Brown/Photo.com

GRAPHIC NOVEL REVIEW DIARY OF A WALKING DEAD KID

By Jeff Kinney and Robert Kirkman, \$11.95, Random Death Publishing

The *Walking Dead* Diary of a *Wimpy Kid*? Two massively popular cartoon titles, each with sales in the millions, but also two totally separate audiences. One series is a gritty exploration of existential horror, about an emotionally shattered hero just trying to survive another day with the terrible knowledge that his own family might turn on him at any moment. And the other one's about zombies.

Each title has reached the pinnacle of success for any comic book creator. They've been turned into a TV show and a movie franchise, so valid fans don't ever have to waste their time reading the original source material ever again. Ugh, PAPER.

But the publishing houses aren't giving up that easy. And if they're hit at marketing online, there's still one way to pique additional interest in their flagship titles: combine them! However, this particular crossover faces daunting creative challenges. On the one hand, you've got a grade school sitcom drawn on a blind monkey's *Itch-A-Scratch* that thinks seat assignments and disapproves are akin to Shakespearean drama. On the other several hand, you've got a repetitive conveyor belt of necrocannibalistic gore, with a more detached outlook on head trauma than the NFL. How can such disparate genres be integrated into one satisfying work? Can two one-note projects harmonize into a symphony?

To be honest, I haven't noticed much of a difference since my brother Rodrick became a zombie. It's not like he got any dumber. And his conversation skills are pretty much the same.



Before I decapitated Mom and Dad, I promised them I take care of Rodrick. So every couple of days, I place a food order with Patrick's Italian Garden. In 20 minutes or less, I get free baked ziti, and Rodrick gets free delivery boy. How was I to know that Carl Grimes would ring the doorbell first?



The answer is yes. These two series are actually a perfect fit. Who among us hasn't had an annoying sibling, and wanted to bite through their carotid artery? *Diary of a Walking Dead Kid* manages to tap into the latent homicidal rage that school and family are all about, and turn it into a charming, nightmarish, wondrously funny ordeal of suffering that schoolchildren of all ages can identify with.

When the story begins, Greg Heffley wakes up to discover that he's been transported to the blood-soaked suburbs of post-apocalyptic Aventura. How is this possible, you ask? Oh, shut up. You never wondered before how Greg could have 90% of his body weight concentrated in his head, but NOW you're getting meticulous about realistic details and alrighty logs?

At first, Greg's happy with the switch because the weird kids have all been eaten, the zombieified bullies can now be extras, and it's okay to put an axe into your least favorite teacher's face. (Even more so if they're a zombie.) As Greg's pals get eaten one by one, he befriends neighborhood newsreader Carl Grimes. Carl's the type of kid Greg's never seen before. Hardened. Resilient. Youngest NRA President ever. He's the most dangerous 13-year-old killing machine to appear in kids' literature since Pipit Longstocking.

If there's a problem with this savage zombie crossover, it's that all of your favorite *Wimpy Kid* characters are dead by the end of it, including *Skinner Male* with Buck Teeth, *Skinner Male* with Five Hair Lines, *Stinky Male* with Buck Teeth, *Stinky Male* with Six Hair Lines and Prettiest Girl in School Who Looks Exactly Like *Stinky Male* with Five Hair Lines Except With a Wig. That leaves our hero Greg all alone, facing down in a pitiless world, bawling his disoriented internal thoughts to nobody. In other words, like every *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* book.



NFL Player or Game of Thrones Character?

1. Prince Anusikama
2. Tylen Lammeter
3. Dantes Holland
4. Lofa Tetsupu
5. Robb Stark
6. Whitney Marvius
7. Joffrey Baratheon
8. Theon Greyjoy
9. Melvory Boverman
10. Among Lanth



Walking Dead being very cool and Greg Heffley is a zombie! Long live the king! The king is dead, long live the king!

11. Mister Alexander
12. Ees-I Gowlung
13. Captain Murmurelyn
14. Jolen Reed
15. Sage Rosenfeld
16. Lorea Tynell
17. Bobby Peckell
18. Steven Frey
19. Jon Snow
20. Meison Urick

The Cover We Didn't Use



Voy to Go!



"GENTLE AS A GENTLE" is just the thing to take you to the future. The future is now.

AN HONEST ITEM RETURN LABEL

I am returning item(s) in this shipment because:

- ☐ Purchased item with stolen identity, now looking nervous
- ☐ Received wrong item. Wanted the exact one pictured in ad, not this one that looks just like it
- ☐ Subjected to homophobic slurs after wearing item/displaying item in house
- ☐ Can't seem to find item under avalanche of Styrofoam peanuts
- ☐ Decided to renounce all worldly possessions and follow guru
- ☐ Shoe didn't fit literally/metaphorically (Please circle one)
- ☐ Item was morally defective

EASY WAYS TO LOSE WEIGHT



All lunchtime, don't walk to the local donut shop, log there.



Before you go to a party, stop at McDonald's for a Superfries meal. That way you won't be tempted to eat a lot of sticky things, which are full of empty calories.



All amusement parks, eat the fries, eat the fries, eat the fries, before you ride the roller coaster, whip or bungee jump.



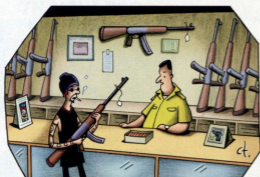
Very few animals during meals to minimize food intake. Eat your soup with a fork, your peas with a knife and only eat steak you cut with a spoon.



You can avoid being tempted to have second helpings simply by making sure you take enough the first time around.

THE FUNDALINI PAGES

Haggerty Will Get You Nowhere



Writer and Artist: Tim Haggerty

GO AHEAD, BRANDISH IT. SEE HOW IT FEELS.

More Rejected Fortune Cookies

Good luck is contagious —
and so is the bacteria in our tea.

Money will come your way
if you recalculate your check —
your waiter overcharges.

Photo: Lucie Lang | Dreamstime.com

LEAST UTILIZED POLICE CODES



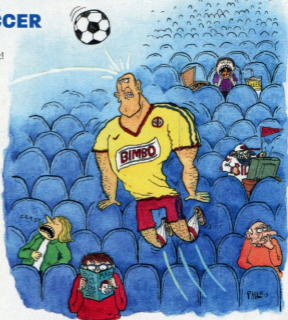
- | | |
|--|---|
| 547 Monkey Laundering | 634 Stealing a Joke |
| 104 Grammatically Incorrect Graffiti | 809 Threatening Sign Language |
| 214 Loitering at a Bus Stop | 825 Forging Someone's Signature Dance Move |
| 537 Dog with a Crossbow | 735 Taking Candy from a Baby |
| 619 Christmas Card Fraud | 291 Conspiracy to Commit Office Lunch Robbery |
| 273 Shoplifting and Shopthrowing | 850 Impersonating an Officer's Voice |
| 119 Public Urination on Another Person | 181 Jury Pampering |

Writer: Matt Lassen Artist: Leonardo Rodriguez

The Stupid Seven

WHY AMERICANS ARE STILL HESITANT TO EMBRACE SOCCER

- 1 The fact that the game can end in a tie. You know what else ended in a tie? Vietnam! And everyone's still peeved about that!
- 2 They fail to televise the most appealing feature: the fan riots.
- 3 Players are kicking everywhere and not one of them gets kicked in the 'nads. Inexcusable!
- 4 We just like to be 3,794,100 square miles of nationwide individualistic pains in the ass to the rest of the world. If that wasn't true, that measurement would be square kilometers!
- 5 Because Americans suck at it and if we suck at it, our egos won't let it be called a real sport.
- 6 The game ends in under two hours! How are we supposed to alienate and neglect our spouses and children if the game isn't at least three hours long?!
- 7 The jerseys have product sponsors right in the middle. It takes most people forever to realize the game isn't "The Red Bulls" vs. "The Bimbos."



Writer: Matt Lassen Artist: Phil McAndrew

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 JARED FLETCHER - DC and Marvel Letterer
 MATT HOLLINGSWORTH - Daredevil, Hawkeye
 HENRIK JONSSON - Detective Comics, Suicide Squad
 ADAM KUBERT - Wolverine, Hulk, Superman, Avengers
 ANDY KUBERT - Origin, 1602, Batman, Nite-Owl
 STAN MADALONI - Studio 2pt0
 TOM MANDRAKE - Creeps, Fringe, To Hell You Ride
 NICK NAPOLITANO - VP Manufacturing Admin, DC Comics
 BILL PRESING - Rex Steele, Pixar storyboard artist
 FERNANDO RUIZ - Archie, EPICS, PS Magazine
 ERIC SHANOWER - Age of Bronze, Wizard of Oz
 RICK VEITCH - Swamp Thing, The Big Lie
 LEE WEEKS - Spider-man

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THE 50 WORST THINGS ABOUT CARTOONS

WRITERS: DESMOND DEVLIN, JEFF KRUSE AND SCOTT MAIKO

ARTISTS: PETER BAGGE, ANTON EMDIN, ADAM KOFORD AND HERMANN MEJIA



2 The blatant product placement for Acme in Roadrunner cartoons.

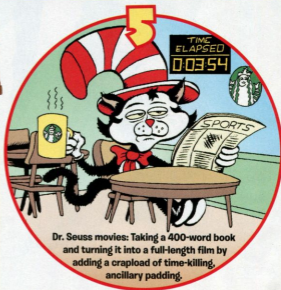


3

Why must it always be the *Pink Panther*... and *Clifford the Big Red Dog*... and *Blue* the dog, and *Annoying Orange*? Why can't we just judge each of them as individuals, rather than by the color of their skin, or fur, or rind?

4

In *Ratatouille*, Remy the rat never gives up. So how can he be French?



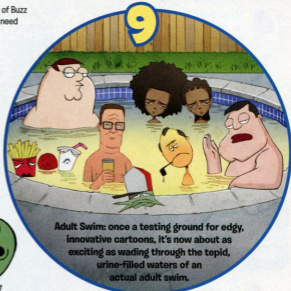
6 *Dora the Explorer*, which has trained a generation of viewers to think they can solve complicated problems by shouting at their televisions. Of course, so has cable news.



7 The obvious gay subtext of Buzz and Woody. Do we even need to elaborate here?



8 *The Flintstones*: at the end of every episode, that sick bastard Fred brings Dino along to eat some Bronto Burgers. Isn't that kind of like taking Mr. Krabs to Red Lobster?



9 *Adult Swim*: once a testing ground for edgy, innovative cartoons, it's now about as exciting as wading through the tepid, urine-filled waters of an actual adult swim.

10 *Archer* is only the second-best cartoon featuring an abusive, sociopathic sex addict and alcoholic mama's boy with an unfortunate history of killing hookers. You're not fooling anyone, Arthur!



11 *Scooby-Doo*. A six-foot Great Dane and four jobless sleuths driving back and forth across the country for 44 years...can you IMAGINE what the inside of the Mystery Machine must smell like?



12

Ah, the fondly-remembered, but largely worthless *Schoolhouse Rock*, which drilled Generation X with hippie folk songs they can still sing – and grammar, math and history lessons they never quite grasped.

13

It's pretty much impossible to enjoy a *Gumby* cartoon when you're worried about that lump on his head. Has he had it checked out? Is it benign? It seems...bigger than it did in the last cartoon...



14

Bubble Guppies. Not only do we just not like them, it's fair to say we have utter contempt for them.



15

The fact that we can't even pour a glass of milk without getting depressed about missing children... wait, hold on, that's one of the 50 Worst Things about Cartoons.

16

The ridiculous depiction of the future on *The Jetsons*. Flying to work and robot maids we can buy, but an intact family with no step-kids? In the future? Yeah, right.



19



The Flintstones, again, with its shameless Fundamentalist Christian propaganda. If we want to see humans and dinosaurs living together, we'd go to the Creation Museum in Kentucky.

17

Scrooge McDuck: Thanks, Disney, for setting such a great example for kids who would go on to become business leaders.



18

Trying to remember the names of all Seven Dwarfs, and always coming up one short (usually Sneezly).



20

The scary, hideous teeth on Aardman film characters, which only reinforce that negative stereotype about the English.



21

Eternally striving to improve *Robot Chicken*. Seth Green is driven by a singular creative vision: "Which superhero character haven't we hit in the balls yet?"



22



The main character in *Beauty and the Beast* is a girl who likes to read because books open up a limitless world of imagination. Naturally, 80 million copies have been bought for little video zombies who sit and watch it over and over and over again!

23

We've had enough of this. What the hell does the "E" stand for?



24

Bambi's mother? Dead. Cinderella's mother? Dead. Snow White's mother? Belle's mother? Dumbo's mother? Nemo's mother? Lilo's mother? Ariel's mother? Pocahontas' mother? Dead, dead, dead, dead, dead, dead, dead! Think Disney script writers have some issues?

25

The criticism of *Pokémon* for causing epileptic seizures in young viewers — when, in fairness, spastically writing on the living room carpet is probably less damaging for kids than actually watching the show.



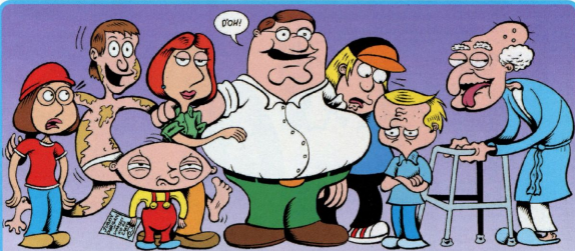
26

Most of the species in *Ice Age* existed during the Pleistocene epoch, but the saber-toothed squirrel and the T-Rex had both been extinct since the Cretaceous-Tertiary extinction event, some 65 million years earlier! This kind of sloppiness makes it impossible to enjoy the part where the dancing sloth does the moonwalk.



27

Turn on channels like Sprout or Nick Jr. at 3:00 or 4:00 A.M., and you'll see programs like *Caillou*, *Wonder Pets*, *The Berenstain Bears* and *Wow Wow Wubbzy*. What sleepless 3-year-olds are still up in the middle of the night watching this stuff, unless they live in a meth lab?



28

Family Guy's shameless plagiarism of *The Simpsons*, as well as its cruel mocking of Meg for being unattractive. Also, its tasteless depictions of the handicapped, with the greased-up deaf guy and kid with an upside-down face. Not to mention the creepy Herbert character and...you know what? Maybe we should just do a separate article called "The 50 Worst Things About *Family Guy*."

29

Four *Shrek* films populated by characters from fairy tales, yet not a single reference to the classic Serbian fable *The Leprous Beggarwhore* and the Giant with Dysentery?! Here's hoping it's in pre-production at Dreamworks.



30

The insipid *Cars* franchise: sure, the movies suck — but the fact that it puts money into Larry the Cable Guy's filthy

overall pockets pushes it into the realm of pure evil.



31

The here-and-gone 2011 reboot of *Beavis & Butt-Head*:

the exact same teenage dumb asses from 15 years ago have somehow become too cerebral and sophisticated for the modern MTV demographic to grasp.



32

Dexter's Laboratory: a withering indictment of society's modern, hands-off approach to parenting, with mother and father authority figures completely disconnected from and oblivious to the lives of their children.



33

The cable network Boomerang, with its slogan, "It's All Coming Back to You" — airing such retro masterpieces as *The Flintstone Kids*, *The Smurfs*, *Pound Puppies*, *Captain Planet* and *The Planeteers*, and *Jabberjaw*. Apparently "Vomit — It's All Coming Back Up" didn't test well in focus groups.

34

Those weird red concentric rings that open Looney Tunes. Hey, why is Cartoon Network airing the video of someone's colonoscopy? Oh, no, wait — it's a Bugs Bunny cartoon.



35



With Hanna and Barbera both dead, now it can be told: the previously suppressed correlation between the increased number of bear attacks in national parks in the early 1960s and the popularity of *The Yogi Bear Show*.

36 If Timmy Turner has two fairy godparents who can do anything with magic, why doesn't he get them to fix his hideous overbite?



37 The suspension of disbelief required to accept that anime characters with severely dilated pupils walking around in full sunlight are not in constant screaming optical agony.



39 A heart growing three sizes in a 24-hour period isn't an indication that you're suddenly in the Christmas spirit — it's a warning sign of hypertrophic dilated cardiomyopathy. See a doctor immediately.



38



The obviously network-mandated inclusion of the token strong female character Sandy Cheeks to *SpongeBob SquarePants*, preventing the show from becoming a total sea-cucumberfest.

40

Jake and the Never Land Pirates, for making pirates look amusing and lovable. Guess the screenwriters haven't been to Somalia lately.



41

In *Spirited Away*, after the girl rescues one of the soot creatures, the giant-headed old lady steals pieces of her name. Then, the ghost boy reveals her parents have become amnesiac pigs. After that, a silent spirit gains a voice by eating a frog-man, and after the flood of gold, the white dragon, who's also the ghost boy, is attacked by a swarm of paper birds. But the next part, when one of the paper birds transforms into the giant-headed old lady's twin sister? Sorry, but that just doesn't make sense.

42

The unfortunate idea that an old man whose adventures revolve around his failing eyesight would be "funny." Imagine how much more hilarious Mr. Magoo would have been be if he also suffered from dementia and incontinence.



43

The unrealistic depiction of quick, efficient, personalized medical help depicted on *Doc McStuffins* to an audience that will grow up knowing only ObamaCare.



45

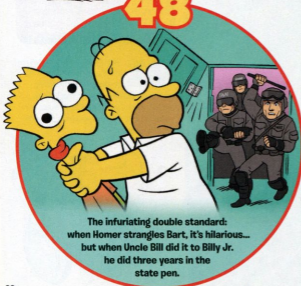
Kung Fu Panda: the bizarre choice to have a panda fighting against foes like a snow leopard and a wolf. Although that's probably more exciting than animating the panda's real enemies — habitat loss and low birth rates.

46

Annoying Orange: 30 seconds of it online is merely dumb and irritating. An entire 15-minute episode, however, should be dealt with as an international war crime.



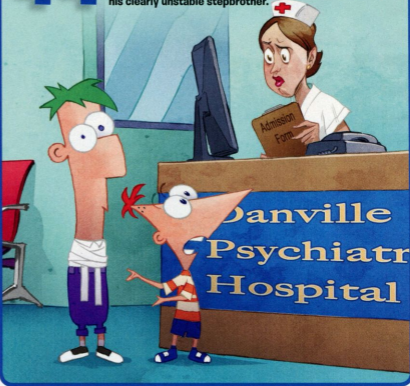
48



The infuriating double standard: when Homer strangles Bart, it's hilarious... but when Uncle Bill did it to Billy Jr. he did three years in the state pen.

44

With Ferb's disturbingly high pants, dead stare and eerie, prolonged silences, we get the feeling that Phineas' next "mission" is going to be finding suitable long-term care for his clearly unstable stepbrother.



47

Alvin and the Chipmunks: If a producer green-lit a project starring Jennifer Tilly, Rosie Perez and that chick from *Chasing Amy*, it would never see the light of day. Yet this animated ice pick-to-the-ears is still going strong after half a century.



49

Shouldn't someone run some sort of DNA test on Mickey and Minnie before things go any further?



50

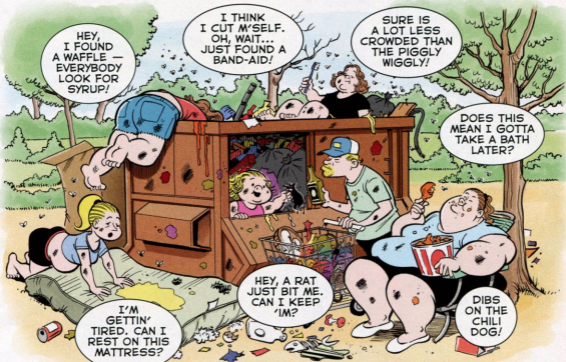
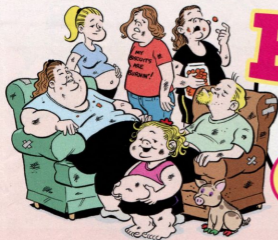
Cartoon Network: we weren't going to list them because they air *MAD*, but then we realized that's exactly why they should be included.





When you think of wholesome, all-American cartoon families, you think of *The Family Circus*. When you think of dysfunctional, all-American real-life families you think of the Thompson family featured in *Here Comes Honey Boo Boo!* Put them together and you've got...

Honey Boo Boo's FAMILY CIRCUS



HEY, I FOUND A WAFFLE — EVERYBODY LOOK FOR SYRUP!

I THINK I CUT M'SELF. OH, WAIT... JUST FOUND A BAND-AID!

SURE IS A LOT LESS CROWDED THAN THE PIGGLY WIGGLY!

DOES THIS MEAN I GOTTA TAKE A BATH LATER?

I'M GETTIN' TIRED. CAN I REST ON THIS MATTRESS?

HEY, A RAT JUST BIT ME. CAN I KEEP 'IM?

DIBS ON THE CHILI DOG!

Honey Boo Boo's FAMILY CIRCUS



Mama, this "head rice" don't taste like rice at all!



No, sweetie, "white trash" is just an expression.
You ain't gotta recycle yourself!



I found my lucky quarter! It was stuck
in one of mama's fat rolls!



No, I just think a "50-pound rump roast"
is an unusual gift for a little girl.



Mama, Gilly's eatin' bacon!
Does that make him a cannibal?



Not me! Not me! Not me!
Not me! Not me! Not me!



PLANET TAD!!!!

ABOUT ME → NAME: TAD → AGE: FOUR SCORE AND -66 YEARS → HEIGHT (IN FOOTBALL FIELDS): .019



February 2, 2013

🐷 If I ran a sausage restaurant, I would have a special on pork sausage every February 2 and call it Ground Hogs Day.

February 5, 2013

🐷 I don't get why people call it "tuna fish". It's not like there's a tuna bird or a tuna cow to confuse it with.

February 7, 2013

🐷 So, I had kind of a weird run-in with Jeremy Cutler today. Jeremy's sort of a juvenile delinquent — like, he's the reason why they had to put a lock on the sign in the cafeteria announcing the day's specials, because the lunch ladies got tired of him stealing the letters "e" and "y" every time they served butternut squash.

He's also not very smart. Like, a while back, he was showing off that he'd stolen a pair of shoes from the bowling alley. Only Jeremy Cutler would think that it's cool to steal shoes that have the sweat of hundreds of people in them.

Anyway, today, I left during study hall to go to the bathroom, and I came across him writing on a locker with a marker. And he looked up and saw me and said, "Don't tell anyone you saw me." Unfortunately, I think he left a small clue that might lead people to figure out he did it. See if you can spot it.



February 8, 2013

🐷 So, today, Jeremy came up to me and said, "Hey! I got busted for writing on that locker yesterday! Why'd you tell on me?" And no matter how much I tried to tell him that it wasn't my fault, he wouldn't believe me. He just kept saying that he was going to "pummelize" me. And I said, "Do you mean you're going to 'pummel' me, or 'pulverize' me?" And he said, "Both."

Luckily, a teacher was watching, so Jeremy couldn't do anything then and there. But I'm going to have to be really careful to keep away from him for the foreseeable future.

February 10, 2013

🐷 I don't know why there's that extra "R" in "February". It's not like anyone ever pronounces it. Try it: Say "Feb-ROO-ary" out loud. You sound like a crazy person. You might as well go around pronouncing the day after Tuesday as "Wed-NESS-day", or pronouncing "strength" as "stren-GITH".

February 14, 2013

🐷 I've been dodging Jeremy all week long, and it isn't much fun. At one point this morning, I saw him coming down the hall, and had to duck into the Teachers' Lounge. I was sure I was going to get in trouble for that, but the only teacher who was in there was Mrs. Winter, the geometry teacher, and all she said was, "I didn't see you, and you didn't see me." I'm not sure what she even meant by that — it's not like she was doing anything bad. All she was doing was drinking coffee from a tiny square thermos.



This is what Mrs. Winter's Thermos looks like

February 15, 2013

🐷 So, I was eating lunch today when my friend Chuck said, "Jeremy Cutler's coming over to our table!" So I did the only thing I could do: I ducked under the table. It was pretty gross, crouching on the lunchroom floor — I wound up kneeling in a puddle of chili that someone had spilled. Making it even grosser: They only serve chili on Mondays, so it must've been a few days old. And just when I thought it couldn't get any worse, Frankie Hastings — who isn't especially small — got up and stepped on my hand. I can still read the imprint of his shoe on the back of my hand. He wears Converse.



February 18, 2013

🐷 Well, the good news today is, I successfully avoided Jeremy for another whole day. The bad news is, in order to hide from him after lunch, I ran into the gym, and wound up in the middle of basketball tryouts. So in order to stay in the gym, I wound up trying out for the basketball team. My tryout was cut short, though, because Coach Hayes said, "Think fast!", and then threw a basketball at my face, and I wound up getting a bloody nose. Coach Hayes just kept apologizing over and over, saying, "Honestly, you're the first player I've ever seen who just let the ball hit their face."

And that's when I reached a decision: Since I started hiding from Jeremy, I've been smeared with chili, had my hand stomped on, and been hit in the face. Basically, I'm getting beat up worse than if I'd just let Jeremy hit me. So tomorrow, I'm going to stop hiding from Jeremy. I'm going to face him. For all I know, maybe he'll even respect me for standing up to him. Wish me luck!

February 19, 2013

🐷 So, today was the day: The big showdown.

It happened after lunch. I was standing in the hallway when I heard Jeremy shout, "Tad! You're dead meat!" And I shouted, "All meat is technically dead! The word for living meat is 'animals'!" And then I just stood my ground, waiting for him to come over, so we could settle this, once and for all.

That decision lasted until he was about five feet away from me, and I was reminded exactly how much bigger than me he is. That's when I took off running. And I ran through the school, and then out the doors, and then across the parking lot. And the whole time, Jeremy was chasing me, getting closer and closer, and I was getting more and more scared, and then I heard a loud thud. And I turned around, and saw that Jeremy had slipped and fallen. I guess bowling shoes don't get a whole lot of traction on icy pavement.

Anyway, Jeremy broke his wrist, and had to go to the hospital. And I guess the rumor around the school now is that I beat Jeremy in a fight. But I think I'm going to tell people what really happened.

Eventually.

SPY



SPY VS SPY

SPY



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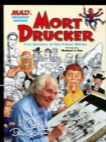
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WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONES

COLORIST: TOM LUTY





Has an older person ever said a phrase that you've never heard before? Maybe they referred to a "five and dime" or a "long play record." Sure, it might be because they're suffering from dementia... but it might just be that the phrase isn't used anymore, and has left the English language (or, in fairness, it might be both). Still, before you have an elderly acquaintance committed, take a look at these...

PHRASES

That Left the

English Language in 2012



AND THAT'S THE BLANKS YOU GET DEF.

MAD's **DO-IT-YOURSELF ADVENTURE TIME** EPISODE

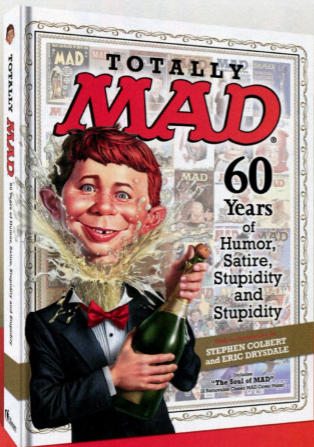
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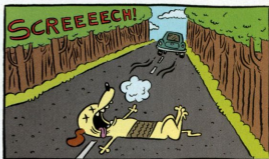
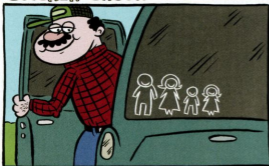
RODS & CONES

You know, I might believe in global warming if I could see one thing that proved it.

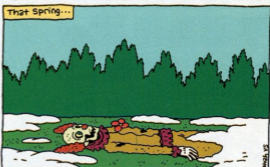
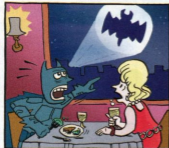


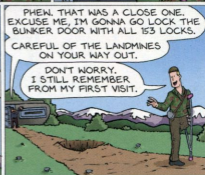
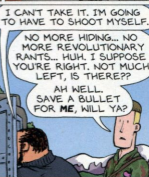
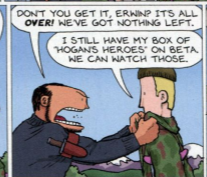
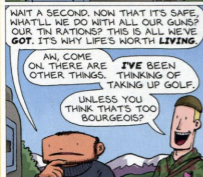
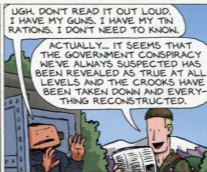
BRIAN GORDON

STICKER SHOCK



MATT LASSEN AND DAVID DUGGAND





**WTF,
JEFF?**

or
**My
Room-
mate
Might
Be a
Serial
Killer**

**AGGGHHHHH!
GOOD LORD, JEFF!!**



KIT LIVELY & SCOTT NICKEL



LANCE HANSEN

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3²⁹

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100% Authentic Water
from the Log Flume!
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or
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sale
3⁹⁹

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42 oz. box

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LET'S TWIST AND MAKE UP DEPT.

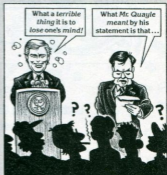
Back in the old days, if someone said something stupid, they had to pay the consequences...



Even as late as the 1970s, nothing had seemed to improve...



It was then that some savvy political consultant hit upon a vital new concept—if you can't change the messenger, re-interpret the message!



And thus was born that wildest of all political creatures...the "Spin Doctor"! They aren't real doctors, but they play them on TV! Their name comes from their purpose—to put a good "spin" on bad information. It wasn't long before others saw the advantages of Spin Doctors and immediately put them to work:

CELEBRITIES

When Madonna licked the naked midget in her video, she was indicating that the special problems of the Vertically Challenged can also be licked!



BIG CORPORATIONS

The Chairman has announced that all otters and seagulls fortunate enough to receive an "unauthorized transfer" of oil as a result of the spill may keep the petroleum free of charge!



FEDERAL AGENCIES

The Nuclear Commission wishes to remind all pregnant women living in the vicinity of the reactor leak that thumbs are highly overrated!



Of course, Spin Doctors don't come cheap and are currently only available to the very wealthy. With any luck though, the field will soon expand and their price will plummet to a range where anyone can afford one! When that happens, look forward to the day when there are...



SPIN

DOCTORS FOR THE REST OF US



Bringing Home A Lousy Report Card



Going To The Prom Alone



Regulping A Blind Date



Getting Caught Shoplifting



Getting Caught Cheating At Monopoly



Watching The Playboy Channel When Your Mom Walks In On You



Accidentally Unplugging Your Friend's Nutsack During The Final Level



Giving Some Hamsters A Ride In The Clothes Dryer



JULKA



Being "technically dead" is one of the best few remaining excuses for getting out of jury duty.



THE UNBROTHERLY DEAD DEPT.

With highly anticipated movies like *Die Hard* and *World War Z* and popular TV shows like *The Walking Dead*, zombies are as hot as ever! But every movie and TV show not there shows makes the same basic mistake: they portray the zombie apocalypse as the worst thing in the world. Not true. There are easier ways to spend your life. For example, which would you rather be: a zombie or a New York City taxi? A zombie or a NYC waiter? See what we mean? And this is even before we spend the next two pages pointing out these...

FREQUENTLY OVERLOOKED BENEFITS OF BEING A

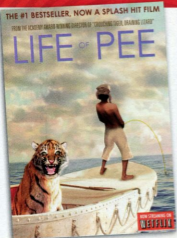
ZOMBIE

WRITER AND ARTIST: TOM CHENEY
COLORIST: CARL PETERSON



Is your computer running frustratingly slow? Maybe it's the fact that you're too cheap to spring for anything but dial-up service. Or maybe the problem is viruses and cookies from all the sick sites you visit. (Yes, we mean you, Caldwell! We beg you to get the treatment you so obviously need!) Either way, if you haven't visited the MAD blog recently, we're here to help. Here's...

The Best of The Idiots



New MONOPOLY PIECES FOR MODERN AMERICA



THE UNABRIDGED NRA NEWS RELEASE

NRA STATEMENT

The National Rifle Association of America is made up of four million moms and dads, sons and daughters who haven't paid much attention as this organization has crushed any attempt to limit sales of assault rifles, high capacity magazine clips and "cop killer" bullets — and we were shocked, saddened and heartbroken by the news of the horrific and senseless murders in Newtown and especially the momentum anti-gun advocates seem to be gaining.

Out of respect for the families, and as a matter of common decency, and to give our PR team a bigger window to figure out how we're going to duck any responsibility whatsoever and blame this latest mass murder on untreated mental illness, video games and anything else we can think of, we have given time for mourning, prayer and a full investigation of the facts before commenting and trotting out our old propaganda chestnut, "guns don't kill people."

The NRA is prepared to offer meaningful contributions to help make sure this never happens again, and is prepared to work tirelessly to find loopholes in, and ultimately undo, any unlikely gun legislation that winds up getting passed.

The NRA is planning to hold a major news conference in the Washington, DC area on Friday, December 21, the start of the big holiday weekend, when most people are too busy to really pay attention and we can weasel our way out of this tight spot.

FOR MANY AMERICANS, WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT FORM THEY WILL EVER FILL OUT?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD-IN

As you get older, there are choices to make and paperwork to go with them. It's a real gamble — for all of these choices, you can bet there are consequences. Taking the time to be thorough and thoughtful pays off. Naturally, people are nervous to be in the deep end of the pool, so they study their options and fill in the blanks as best they can. To find out what form is dominating the thoughts of many, fold page in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



THERE ARE TOO MANY FORMS TO FILE. IT'S NOT FAIR MAKING PEOPLE DO THIS. TECHIES NEED TO RESEARCH MAJOR WAYS TO RESOLVE THIS MESS. WE NEED BOLDNESS BASED ON NEW IDEAS TO END THESE FORM-CRAZED RACKETS

**FOR MANY
AMERICANS, WHAT IS
THE MOST IMPORTANT
FORM THEY WILL
EVER FILL OUT?**



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



**THEIR
MARCH
MADNESS
BRACKETS**

A B

God Bless
OUR
ASSAULT



WEAPONS

A **MAD** SAMPLER

DW